

SUBJECTS.

99. Cutting of teak trees on Ayacut land without payment of royalty.

(3) That the people might be granted the privilege of cutting and removing teak trees standing on lands registered in the Ayacut without payment of royalty.

Dewan's reply.—(No. 1) It has been decided by Government that proper scales should be purchased and kept in the several bankshalls. This is being done.

(No. 2) Will be considered in the Excise Department.

(No. 3) Government are aware that there is some inconvenience in the matter of cutting teak trees standing on private lands and they are considering in what way relief could be granted without loss to Government.

100. Separation of revenue from magisterial functions.

Mr. K. Ittan Pillai (Member, Muvattupuzha Taluk) said that the responsibility in regard to the disposal of revenue cases rested with the Tahsildar who, however, invariably delegated the work to the Rayasoms. Those subordinates summoned parties and witnesses, took down statements and drafted decisions. That led to malpractices in most of the Taluks. If the Tahsildar was to do his revenue work satisfactorily, he should be divested of his magisterial duties. If that was not immediately possible, he requested that at least the enquiry into revenue cases might be made in the presence of the Tahsildar who should himself take down notes of evidence and write the decisions.

Mr. S. Padmanabha Pillai (Member, Karunagapalli Taluk) spoke at length in favour of the representation and referred to the experiment tried by a former Dewan in four Taluks of the State. In conclusion, he suggested (1) the separation of the revenue from the magisterial functions, (2) the appointment of a Munsiff for each Taluk with second and third class magisterial powers, and (3) the appointment of Village Munsiffs and the institution of Panchayets to lighten the small cause work of the Munsiffs.

Mr. K. Narayana Panikkar (Member, Karunagapalli Taluk) also supported the suggestion.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

101. Granting translations of judgments to parties.

Mr. S. Krishna Aiyer (Member, Todupuzha Taluk) requested that orders might be issued for the granting to parties of translations of judgments and other records written in English.

Dewan's reply.—This is provided for in the existing rules.

102. Reform of the Police Department.

Mr. P. Raman Tampi (Member, Trivandrum Taluk) said that the cry of Police torture and corruption was the same here and in British India and that the Policeman